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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/743,747 Confirmation No. 9683  
Applicant : Takashi SUNOHARA et al.  
Filed : December 24, 2003  
TC/A.U. : 1724  
Examiner : Unknown  
Dkt. No. : NPR-133  
Cust. No. : 20374

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

June 10, 2004

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each document is attached.

No fee or statement is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, since it is being submitted prior to the last of (1) issuance of a first official action on the merits and (2) expiration of the three month period following filing of the above-captioned application.

U.S. Patent Appln. S.N. 10/743,747  
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

**PATENT**

Documents UA, FA and FC are in the English language. Therefore, no concise explanation of the relevance of the documents is believed to be required under 37 C.F.R. §1.98.

Document FB is not in the English language. However, the concise explanation of the relevance of the document required under 37 C.F.R. §1.98 is believed to be satisfied by the submission of an English language abstract thereof.

Please note that the documents submitted with this statement have been cited in a search report in a corresponding European patent application. A copy of the report is attached hereto. Documents listed in the search report but not currently submitted, i.e., WO 98 22161, FR 2 267 138 and JP 11 009684, were submitted with an IDS on April 20, 2004, in the present application.

The undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in this statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account

U.S. Patent Appln. S.N. 10/743,747  
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

**PATENT**

No. 111833 for any fee which is deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments: PTO-1449  
Four Documents  
European Search Report



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  PTO-1449	Atty. Docket No. NPR-133	Serial No. 10/743,747
	Applicant: Takashi SUNOHARA et al.	
	Filing Date: 12/24/2003	Group: 1724

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initial		Document No.	Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If appropriate
	UA	4,219,426	8/26/80	Spekle et al.	210	232	
	UB						
	UC						
	UD						
	UE						
	UF						
	UG						

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initial		Document No.	Date	Country	Translation Yes/No/Partial
	FA	0 701 826 A2	03/20/96	EP	
	FB	2 542 203	09/14/84	FR	Abstract
	FC	1 344 542 A1	09/17/03	EP	
	FD				
	FE				
	FF				
	FG				

## OTHER DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initial		
	DA	
	DB	
	DC	

Examiner:	Date Considered:
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